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PROFESSIONAL.

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THE BOOK OF THE BIBLE.

OLD TESTAMENT.

In Genesis the world began.

There was nothing suspicious in his ap-
pearance. He looked a simple pilgrim,
and was barefooted; in one hand he car-
ried a staff, with the other he steadied
the long bamboo pole which rested on
one shoulder, and from each end of
which hung the wicker-work baskets
which hold the bottles, or rather flasks,
in which water is carried from the sacred
rivers to some far-distant shrine. He
stopped in front of the old zemindar.
"How far is it, father, to the next good
well by the roadside? for there we mean
to rest for the night."

"Two miles, my son," replied the old
man.

"The water in the well is good?"

"It is."

"And the grove near it is a good one
to sleep in?"

"Perhaps there if a *bunyah* (grain
dealer's) shop near it where we could
get some food?"

"No; there is not."

"Then how far is the next well and
resting-place?"

"Two miles more."

"And is the water in that well good?"

"A *thon* asketh many questions," said
the old man.

But the purpose of the questioning
had been gained. He had a goodly piglet
which had been in single file; it had
given them time to come up and form a
group.

Some of them had put down their poles
and baskets, as if to rest themselves.

But now the baskets were slipped off,
the staves taken in hand and a rush
made on the old man and his sons and
servants, who were soon overpowered,
and the robbers possession of the
house, while some kept guard outside.

They carried no arms, so as to avoid
suspicion about the robbery as well as
before. But a heavy "made" iron
club is a formidable weapon. Torture
was soon applied to the old man to mak-
him reveal where his treasure was
hidden.

Two little grandchildren, a boy and a
girl, were seized, and the heavy clubs
held over their heads with a threat of
dashing their brains out if the old man
did not confess speedily. He did so.

The robbers were now in the house,
among the band, whereupon the robbers
moved off and kept together until they
got clear of the village, which they sepa-
rated, going across country singly or by
two and three, and by the time the
police arrived from the nearest station
they had a good two hours' start.

The second kind of *Da-coite* is robbery
on the highway. Here the gang of
robbers attacks a party of travelers, re-
sulting in the loss of goods, and some-
times a *plunder* the mail cart.

A trader was going from one town to
another with a load of goods, and some
valuable goods. He had with him
two carts and two servants. As he was
moving along a frequented highway, he
deemed himself safe from all danger.

But one evening, in a somewhat in-
frequented spot, a gang of robbers, look-
ing like travelers, suddenly set on him
and his servants, overpowered them, seized
and plundered him, and then, taking them
off the road, left them in a piece of scrub
where it was not likely they would be
discovered until next morning.

One of the robbers then dressed him-
self in the trader's clothes—almost every
occupation in India has a special dress—
and assumed his part. The two others
acted as his servants. They set out into
another part of the country, and the
police stations were established at
short intervals. Going up to the
first, the sham trader represented that
he was most anxious to push on that
evening, that he had good horses and val-
uable property with him; that he thought
some robbers had got wind of this, and
asked that he might have a policeman to
escort him from one station to another.

A police officer, naturally, was sent
with him, and so the trader actually re-
covered his property, and the robbers with
their booty to a large town at some distance off, reaching
which they soon disposed of the carts
and all their belongings.

Cattle-lifting is a form of robbery
very prevalent in some parts of India
more especially in the neighborhood of
woods and forests, into which the
stolen cattle and the herds of the
country lying between the
Ganges and the Jumna, as the forest
land at the foot of the Himalaya are
for the peaceful hiding-ground.

A pair of stolen oxen, or a cow, is
valued at from five to ten rupees, and
to this forest from the village where
they were lifted, twenty-five or thirty
miles off, in the course of the night.

The ordinary forms of robbery, sim-
ple theft from the house or person, done
secretly and not openly, and where a
takes the place of force, are of course
the most common. Here everything de-
pends on the quietness of the thief, and
the vigilance of the watchman. The
thief has to be in the house, and the
Indian thief has attained great perfec-
tion. Then he is accustomed to go
barefooted. His tread is habitually light.
He knows the natural supply, and
made more so by the use of argents,
which enable him to roll himself up into
a marvellously small space.

The delicious coolness of the night
has succeeded in the heat of the day.
May. The moonlight makes a mimic
day; but how soft is its light, however
bright, compared with the sunlight of a
few hours before! A party of travelers
are on the road, and the robbers, in
meal, have now spread their carpets and
quits on the ground in the mango-
grove, and laid themselves down to
sleep. All is now silent, and when the
jackals rend the air with their horrid
cries. A jackal gives a yelp on one side
of the grove; another answers with a
howl from the other side. These are
not jackals, but confederate thieves, one
of whom enters the grove at the end
farthest from where the sleeping travel-
ers lie. On his stomach he steals quiet-
ly along from one tree to another. Some
times he is seen to "cut" a tree, and
when upon the steady one coils him-
self into a heap and lies dead still, and
so he lies for an hour or more, if
necessary.

A "jackal" howls quietly near the
grove, as if it had just creased it, and
rushed the leaves. The thief drags him-
self along the ground again. At length
he reaches the tree, and the sleeping row
of travelers. He passes his hand quiet-
ly under the pillows. This fat man is
the rich man of the party; that thin
man is a poor fellow, a pilgrim, who con-
tains something valuable. The dusky
thief removes it gently without waking
the sleeping man. He next makes
this other man turn over on his pillow
by gentle touches on the face; and, hav-
ing got what he wanted, creeps gently
away. One of the extemporized jackals
gives a bark here, the other a short howl
there; and the two thieves meet and
depart together.

When out for the night, the thieves
strip themselves of all their clothing
except a short, tight loin-cloth, and
smear themselves with oil, so as to be
able to slip out of the grasp of any one

chasing them. They seldom carry arms,
in the ordinary sense, but strap a couple
of light spearheads to each forearm,
with the points projecting beyond the
elbows, which backward stroke of which
they can give a severe if not deadly
wound to any one trying to seize them.
Generally, however, they carry a small
dagger knife.

The houses of many of even the well-
to-do natives have mud walls only,
through which the thieves dig a hole to
break in. This requires long, quiet
and patient work. A great number of
the Indian stories about robbers turn on
this mode of proceeding; how one
woman alone in the house with her chil-
ren waited quietly until the thief put
his head through the hole, and killed him
with a blow of an ax; how another
waited with a rope in her hand, and the
thief tied his ankles together and
looked him prisoner; but when the neigh-
bors came around they found only a head-
less trunk.

English people in India are seldom
robbed, though for half the year the
doors of the bungalows in which they
live are left wide open. "Tip a
coolie, all night long. The chief
reason is that the articles in the house
are so different from those in use among
the natives themselves that the attempt
to dispose of them would be a serious
task. A thief in India trying to sell
a spoon or fork would be like an Eng-
lish thief trying to dispose of an Eng-
lish watch or a pair of boots. A thief
in India is a thief in the true sense of
the word, and every household keeps a *chokidar*,
or private watchman, though it is not
the personal prowess or vigilance of
this often very aged man that
saves the house from the thief, but the
fact that the *chokidar* is fully armed,
thief by caste or profession, and his
salary forming the blackmail you pay
the confraternity. Dogs are also a
source of protection. The native thief
is afraid of the dog, and the dog is
trained to bark at the thief. A good
many robberies, however, take place
about the country during the cold
weather. It is so easy to enter a tent,
and the thieves are so numerous, that
making a slit in the tent, and a
case in which one of those thieves
showed a great knowledge of psychology.
A lady and her husband were asleep in
their tent; the lady was disturbed by a
noise, and saw by the light of the lamp,
which hung from the tent-pole, that a
thief was gliding about making up a
bundle of things that he thought would
suit him. This bundle he had placed
on a table which stood not far from the
bed. As he slipped up to the table to
add another article to the mass, his eyes
fell on those of the lady's face. She had
half opened her mouth, in order to
scream and awaken her husband, when
the man made one long step to the side
of the bed and simply made a pass with
his hand over the lady's face. She was
at once paralyzed for several minutes;
the man kept his eyes fixed on hers
while he gathered up his bundle of
things, then, just as the long-delayed
scream burst from her lips, he drew un-
der the curtain of the tent and dis-
appeared.

Power of the Plug Hat.

The plug hat is virtually a sort of
social guarantee for the preservation of
peace and order. He who puts on one
of these hats is giving to the community
for his good behavior. The wearer of a
plug hat must move with a certain se-
dateness and propriety. He cannot run,
or jump, or romp, or get into a fight,
or do anything that would reflect on the
dignity of the hat. The hat is a badge
of respectability. The wearer of the
beaver toward respectability. He who wears
one is obliged to keep the rest of his
body in decent trim, that is, to be well
in conformity between head and body.
He is apt to become thoughtful through
the necessity of watching the sky when-
ever he goes out. The chances are that
he will buy an umbrella, which is not
another guarantee for good behavior, and
the care of hat and umbrella—perpetual
and exacting as it must ever be—adds to
the sweetness of his character. The
man who wears a plug hat naturally takes
to the society of women, and all its el-
evated tendencies. He cannot go hunt-
ing and fishing without abandoning his
beloved hat, but in the modern move-
ment of croquet and lawn tennis he may
sport his beaver with impunity. In
other words, the constant use of a plug
hat makes a man composed in manner,
quiet and gentlemanly in conversation,
and the companion of the ladies. The in-
evitable result is prosperity, marriage and
church membership.

Evil Effects of the Electric Light.

An unexplained objection to the elec-
tric light arises from its alleged evil ef-
fects on the eyes. European observers
state that the frequent variations in in-
tensity to which the light is subject give
rise to a kind of "eye-strain," and in the
pupil, and, consequently, in the
"accommodation" of the eye, by which
is meant that alternate contraction and
dilatation of the pupil by which it suits
itself to the varying distance of the ob-
ject. Therefore, causes not only muscular
fatigue, but also a considerable de-
gree of blurring and indistinctness in
the retinal image. The eye suffers when
when the light is too dim and when it is
too bright. In the former case the ob-
ject must be brought close to the eye, and
in the latter case the eye must be
shut, and an increased accommodation
is called for, which in turn causes
results in nearsightedness. In the
latter case, the simple intensity of the
light produces undue contraction of the
pupil, and an increase of tension within
the eye.

Is Consumption Contagious?

It is surprising to some American vis-
itors to European hospitals to find that
consumptive patients are kept in a de-
partment by themselves, while the same
care for separating is not exhibited in
regard to diseases deemed more con-
tagious on this side of the ocean. Yet the
conviction that pulmonary diseases are
infectious is gaining strength among
American physicians, and it is a
prominent physiologists and anatomists
worthy fact that the fathers of medicine,
Hippocrates and Galen, inclined strong-
ly to that opinion. The same belief has
been entertained along by many
prominent physiologists and anatomists.
Consumption often arises from eating of
the meat of animals with diseased lungs,
and actual experiment has shown that
when diseased animals have been fed on
the diseased lungs of a cow, they have been
attacked by pulmonary disease. A rigid
supervision of all meats sold, and a
thorough system of ventilation in hos-
pitals, and especially in hospitals where
consumptives are treated, seem to be
the best preventives against the ac-
quisition and communication of the
malady.

FASTFAST acts. "What's honor?" as
"though it was hard to tell. But let one
-oman sit behind another in church and
-all tell what's on her in less than two
minutes.

How a Young Lady's Foot Blocked a Railroad.

A young lady took a car which
brought her to the foot of California
street, and there took a seat on the dum-
my car, which bore her to the vicinity
of her home, Octavia street. As she
left the car and was crossing the track
on the southern side, her foot slipped
and turned and was caught fast in the
track where the wire cable passes. Some
imperfect in the roadbed had caused the
narrow aperture to expand, and the
young girl's narrow foot was entrapped.
The engineer of the east-bound dummy
saw the obstacle on the road in season
to check his swift-approaching car,
and alighted with the conductor and several
passengers of investigative mind, who
endeavored to release the slender foot,
but their efforts were vain. Another
car and another brought up in taut
row, and constant re-enforcements in
the way of passing pedestrians cheered
and enlivened the scene. An attempt was
made to pry the iron rails forming the
able channel further apart, but they
duly resisted all efforts. Everybody
made a suggestion: "Push your foot
up and down," "Pull it back," "Tip it
sideways," "Lift your heel higher,"
the unhappy girl was almost fainting,
she persevered in her efforts to ex-
tract the offending member. By this
disposal of the road had actually
ceased. The last car had long ago
passed, and was steadily approaching to
all into line at the rear of the singular
obstruction. Down-town passengers fret-
ted and cursed in a cheery voice, the
ill in disgust. On every street corner
groups of waiting people berated the
rout of street-car management. Re-
ports from the down-town dailies were
being procured toward to learn the
meaning of the large crowd reported to
have assembled in the Western addition.
From the scene of the accident envoys
had been dispatched to the railroad
shops to bring appliances for taking up
a section of the track. At this juncture
a tall, brawny Englishman, in the dress
of a mechanic, forced his way through
the throng, and, in a cheery voice,
marked by the Derbyshire dialect, asked:
"H'ave ye tried *cutstien* the young
lady's shoe?"

Ten buttons flew from as many but-
tonholes; in the twinkling of an eye the
root was free.—*San Francisco Chroni-
cle.*

Aversion of Appetite.

Dr. Oswald calls attention, in the
Popular Science Monthly, to the fact
that an antipathy to a special dish in-
dicates the presence of a constitutional re-
pugnance, which it is not wise to dis-
regard. He says:

I had a Belgian soldier on whom
common sense, in any combination, and
any dose exceeding ten pennyworths,
acted as a drastic poison, and thousands
of Hindus cannot taste animal food
without vomiting.

Similar effects have been attributed
to abstain from onions, sage, parsnips
and even from Irish potatoes. Dr.
Pereira mentions the case of an English
boy who had an incurable aversion to
mutton.

"He could not eat mutton in any form.
The peculiarity was supposed to be
wing to caprice, but the mutton was re-
served in fact, and given to him un-
der the name of 'beefsteak,' and he ate
it with much relish. They are lad-
dled up with much material as they can
sustain, and they must succeed with it on
their backs, standing at every step,
often falling back into the bottom of the
cup with broken limbs or even dead.
The older ones, writes an eye-witness,
arrive at the point of mutton, the little
ones crying and sobbing.

The mortality exceeds that of any
other province of Italy; the statistics of
the loss show an incredible number of
lame and deformed, and of young men
of 21 totally unfit for military service.

A Delicate Subject.

A church dignitary, whose juris-
diction embraced a large region of the West,
and afforded several kinds of climate,
was greeted by a clerical friend with no
end of questions as they were riding up
toward a crowded car. Inquiries pri-
vate were poured in at a rapid rate, and
then the matter of his temporal environ-
ment was the subject of discussion.
The Western shepherd was speaking of
the extreme of temperature to which
they were subjected in the district where
he resided. Suddenly his New York
friend asked, "How does your wife
stand the heat?"

A peculiar look stole into the counte-
nance of the ecclesiastic from beyond
the Mississippi as he quietly answered,
"My wife has been dead a year."

The inference of the friend was an elevated
temperature in connection with the
deceased was too much for the
Knickerbocker. He left at the next
corner.—*Harper's Drawer.*

TERMINUS.

For constancy of bloom the geranium
is unequalled. Small plants, that can
be bought very cheap, if put out in May,
will completely fill a bed a three weeks
after planting, and early in June will be
a mass of flowers, and continue getting
better and better until blackened by the
frosts of autumn. While other
plants are willing to wait the scorching
rays of our summer sun, the geranium
seems to glory in the hottest weather.
There is also a variation in the color of
the flower, as well as in the form and
color of the leaves. In a few varieties
of geraniums a more artistic and
varied bed can be made than with almost
any other flower. The center of a large
bed may be scarlet, with light colors
around, or a few rows on the border may
be of the silver-leaved kinds. Indeed,
a have been delicate and intricate pat-
terns formed of geraniums alone in some
of the celebrated gardens of Europe.

An American from Cork.

Patrick responded to an advertisement
of "An American wanted as coachman."
"Are you an American?" asked the
gentleman.

"Of course, sir," answered Patrick.
"Where were you born?"

"In Oireland, sir, County Cork."

"County Cork, eh?" mused the gen-
tleman. "How is it that you are an
American when you were born in Ire-
land?"

"Fair, sir," said Patrick, "I'm bot-
ered about that same meself, sir."

Proper Dress for Children.

In Spanish America, where infantile
diseases are as rare as in Hindostan, ba-
bies of all classes and all sizes toddle
about naked nearly the year round, and
the Indians of Tumululpa, between
Tampico and Matamoros, raise an astor-
ishing number of brown bantlings, who
are never clothed with clothes till they
are big enough to carry garden stuff to a
city where the police enforces the apron
regulation.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

AS MANY AS THE difficulties which
virtue has to encounter in this world,
her force is yet superior.

DISCONTENT IN THE WALT OF self-re-
spects.